



Dorothy C. Ramsaier ~ PO Box 171 ~ Columbia, NJ 07832

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October 28, 1999

FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket #97N-0074

Dear Sir or Madam,

The President's Council on Food Safety is interested in public opinion on ways to reduce food borne illnesses in the **nation's** food supply. Feed withdrawal from turkeys and chickens "has long been shown to markedly increase contamination with both Salmonella and Campylobacter. The birds look for other food sources during feed withdrawal, eating litter [the contaminated material the birds are forced to live in] when they are hungry." Since hens being starved in their cages do not have access to litter, they are driven to "pluck and consume" cage mates' contaminated feathers (Avian Diseased 1995, 39:248).

By drastically changing **the** confinement of turkeys and chickens in battery cages and extreme confinement, we will eliminate much of the food contamination and diseases resulting from these situations.

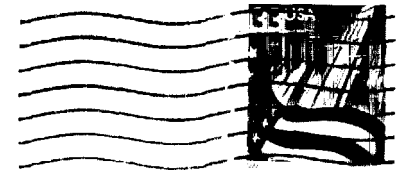
Yours truly,

Dorothy C. Ramsaier

97N-0074

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20857+0001

